University of Saskatchewan St. Thomas More College Phil. 120.3 M03 T1 Knowledge, Mind and Existence: Introductory Topics in Philosophical Problems

Midterm Exam October 15th, 2004

Instructions: Place your name and student number on your exam booklet. Answer 4 out of the following 5 questions. No aids (books or notes) permitted. The exam is approximately 50 minutes.

- With reference to the divided line, explain how Plato distinguishes knowledge from opinion? Why does Plato believe that knowledge is better than even **right** opinions? Explain your answer.
- Plato distinguishes sophistry and philosophy. Explain how he distinguishes sophistry from philosophy. Based on his defense at his trial, do you think Socrates has adequately shown that he is not a sophist? Explain why or why not.
- Explain the main features of Pausanias' speech in praise of love. What would Plato think are some right opinions in this account?
- 4. Explain the main features of Alcibiades' rant at the end of the Symposium. What does Plato think is significance of this rant (i.e. is there any right opinions expressed in it)?
- Explain the analogy of the Sun and the Good. What implications does this analogy have for understanding the nature of the Good?